



METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT OVER GREAT BRITAIN

AT 0900 GMT ON 25 MAY 1977

Following the issue of the previous bulletin (11 May 1977) the weather over Great Britain was at first generally unsettled, with widespread rain and showers from 11th to 13 May. However from 14th to 16th it became relatively dry, with any rain being confined to the southern half of England. From 17th onwards the weather became predominantly dry over the whole of Britain, though there was some rain over South East England on 20th, South West England on 24th and parts of Scotland on 18th and 19 May. The wettest day over Great Britain in this period was 11 May. The largest rainfalls (those of 15mm and above) occurred at the Scilly Isles (18mm) on 11th, Abbotsinch and Leeming (17mm) on 12th, Manston (19mm) on 13th and St Mawgan (15mm) on 15 May.

Over the whole of Britain deficits have been increasing throughout this period and especially so during the second week when increases of 20mm or more occurred quite widely. Over Wales, South West and North West England (excluding Cumbria), parts of the North Midlands and Lincolnshire composite land use deficits are now near or a little above average for the end of May; the rest of England still has deficits a little below average. The largest estimated deficits are at Wittering (76 and 61mm respectively, for short rooted and composite land uses).

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION: £10.00 per season (post free)

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ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT (S.M.D.)

AT 09 GMT ON 25 MAY 1977

River Area	Estimated Areal	Change during the Week Ending 09 GMT on	
	S.M.D. MM	25 MAY 77 MM	18 MAY 77 MM
Northumbrian	31.4	+ 18.0	+ 5.9
Yorkshire	35.3	+ 24.9	+ 5.6
Trent	38.2	+ 24.9	+ 5.8
Lincolnshire	41.3	+ 26.3	+ 3.7
Welland and Nene	43.9	+ 25.4	+ 2.3
Great Ouse	41.5	+ 24.1	+ 1.1
Norfolk and Suffolk	43.2	+ 25.8	+ 3.1
Essex	50.5	+ 22.6	+ 0.3
Lee Division	46.3	+ 22.7	+ 1.0
Thames Conservancy	38.3	+ 22.7	+ 5.4
London Area	38.6	+ 23.2	- 1.2
Kent	34.1	+ 19.3	+ 0.1
Sussex	36.8	+ 19.0	+ 5.7
Hampshire	35.2	+ 19.1	+ 5.2
Isle of Wight	52.5	+ 19.3	+ 5.0
Avon and Dorset	32.1	+ 21.2	+ 2.2
Devon	33.5	+ 21.7	+ 5.2
Cornwall	25.3	+ 20.5	+ 2.2
Somerset	36.7	+ 23.1	+ 2.8
Bristol Avon	35.5	+ 23.6	+ 4.9
Severn	35.0	+ 23.6	+ 4.8
Wye	32.3	+ 22.2	+ 6.8
Usk	33.2	+ 21.9	+ 6.3
Glamorgan	34.9	+ 21.7	+ 6.5
South West Wales	30.8	+ 20.8	+ 7.4
Gwynedd	31.6	+ 20.5	+ 5.3
Dee and Clwyd	34.1	+ 21.4	+ 8.1
Mersey and Weaver	35.7	+ 23.8	+ 6.9
Lancashire	35.4	+ 23.8	+ 6.3
Cumbria	26.9	+ 18.2	+ 5.8

NB Apart from normal changes these differences also reflect retrospective adjustments after receipt of additional data.

ESTIMATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICIT

0900 GMT 25 May 1977

Areas with no soil moisture deficit are shaded. Remaining areas bounded by 25, 50 and 75 mm lines

SHORT ROOTED VEGETATION

